



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Matassa et al.		
Serial No.:	09/719,261	Case No.:	ITR0020P
Filed:	July 23, 2001		
For:	PEPTIDE INHIBITORS OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS NS3 PROTEASE		

Art Unit: 1653

Examiner: Mondesi, Robert B.

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

Responsive to the office action mailed April 27, 2004, applicants request considerations of the **Remarks/Arguments** beginning on page 2 of this paper.

37 C.F.R. 1.8 Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By Sheldon O. Heber

Date 8/16/2004

Sheldon O. Heber